

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

An early examination on the merits for the above-captioned new continuation application is hereby solicited.

By the present amendment, the prosecution of claims 13 and 14 is continued. Additionally, new dependent claims 15-30 are presented. These claims correspond substantially to former claims 32, 33, 37-45, 48, 52-54, and 60 in the parent application.

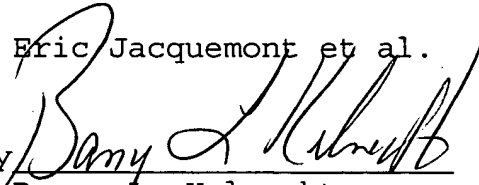
Should the Examiner believe an additional amendment is needed to place the case in condition for allowance, he is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No fee is believed to be due as a result of this response. Should the Commissioner determine that a fee is due, he is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Jacquemont et al.

By


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I, Nicole Motzer, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on May 20, 2004.

